

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 10, 2016

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3293) to provide for greater accountability in Federal funding for scientific research, to promote the progress of science in the United States that serves that national interest:

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chair, today, I will vote no on H.R. 3293, the so-called "Scientific Research in the National Interest" Act.

This bill is the latest in the House Majority's campaign to undermine science and the scientific community. The scientific peer-based, merit review process that the National Science Foundation (NSF) currently has in place is widely regarded as the "gold standard" for funding scientific research. This bill would add unnecessary bureaucratic paperwork to this process, but more troublingly, it would undermine our nation's basic research enterprise. The attempts to insert politics into this process have already caused our nation's scientists to shy away from high-risk, potentially high-reward research that some House members may find controversial.

We must not allow elected officials to arbitrarily override expert scientific review. We have seen this type of stunt time and time again with efforts to undermine climate change science, and today, the target is on basic research. It is time to stop this charade. We should be focusing more on evidence-based, performance-based policymaking, rather than finding a solution in search of a problem.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 10, 2016

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3293) to provide for greater accountability in Federal funding for scientific research, to promote the progress of science in the United States that serves that national interest:

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Chair, I want to state my support for H.R. 3293, the Scientific Research in the National Interest Act. This bill, in an effort to enhance transparency and accountability at the National Science Foundation (NSF), would include a determination by the NSF that any grant or cooperative agreement by the NSF promotes the progress of science by being in the national interest.

Under this bill's broad definitions of what "is in the national interest", I expect that for vir-

tually all successful grant applications, the NSF would have no difficulty in making the certification. Section 2(b)(2)(G)'s "promotion of the progress of science for the United States" is such a broad justification for determining if research is within the national interest, that it likely covers all current research being funded by the NSF and could cover all future directions that the Foundation would like to explore. Any research that advances the frontiers of knowledge and drives technological innovation promotes the progress of science for the United States.

I would like to point out that all the justifications of Section 2(b)(2) can be construed both broadly and liberally. For example, Section 2(b)(2)(A)'s inclusion of "increased economic competitiveness in the United States" could encompass all funding that promotes the progress of engineering, physics, chemistry, biology, astronomy, and mathematics in order to build and strengthen our national capacity for innovation and production.

Section 2(b)(2)(B)'s "advancement of the health and welfare of the American public" could include research into biology, life, the natural world, and the environment. Behavioral and social science research could also fall under the "advancement of the health and welfare of the American public" justification as well, because behavioral and social science build fundamental knowledge of human behavior, interaction, and social and economic systems that underpin the health and welfare of our society.

Section 2(b)(2)(C)'s "development of an American STEM workforce that is globally competitive" could be seen as promoting STEM education at all levels and in all settings, including both formal and informal settings. Having a well-informed workforce that has access to the ideas and tools associated with STEM education serves to enhance the quality of life of all citizens while promoting U.S. economic competitiveness, advancing the health and welfare of the American public, and supporting the national defense.

To reiterate, I believe that Section 2(b)(2) of this bill is to be construed broadly and liberally. I believe that the inclusion of Section 2(b)(2)(G)'s "promotion of the progress of science for the United States" likely covers all current and future research engaged in by the NSF. Further, I believe that the fact that the Foundation is provided the discretion to make the determination allows the NSF ample room to continue its desired research. And I expect that for virtually all successful grant applicants, the NSF will have no difficulty in making this determination applaud Chairman SMITH for his work on this important legislation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF IRENE R. CARDAMONE

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Irene R. Cardamone, 90, who passed away on February 2, 2016. Irene was born on October 21, 1925 in Cleveland, Ohio.

Irene graduated from North Royalton High School. She worked as a customer service representative with Insurance Diversified Agency in Solon, Ohio and once had her own catering company, Irene's Catering. Irene's passions included golf, sewing, crafts, and cooking. She was known to be a wonderful baker. She loved to travel, especially to the beach. Irene was a big baseball fan. She loved the Yankees, Derek Jeter, and the Cleveland Indians. Irene was happiest when she was with her wonderful family. She had a quick wit, and never forgot anyone's birthday. She will be remembered by her family and friends as a loving, caring, outgoing, and friendly woman, who always had a smile on her face.

Irene will be deeply missed by her family and friends. She leaves behind three children; Janet Carson (husband Terry), Nancy Vecchio (husband James), and MaryLou Mele (husband Paul); nine grandchildren; Carolyn Osters (Michael), Joseph Cardamone, Andrew Carson (Kelli), April Carson (James Ewing), Salvatore Vecchio (Sheridan), Cara Berg (Ryan), James Vecchio (Christine), Kristin Mele, Nicholas Mele; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Irene was preceded in death by her beloved husband, John S. Sr.; son, John S. Jr.; and sister, Alice Humphrey.

Losses like these are never easy, but we can all take comfort in the fact that Irene led a long and fulfilling life. She will live on in our memory and in the memory of her beautiful family.

TRIBUTE TO FRANCES GARLAND

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, Frances Garland once stated that she thought of herself first as a housewife and desired to be only a successful mother. Her personal view of her life as it unfolded does not do justice to how much she was appreciated by so many whom she touched, whether family or friends. Frances was one of my longtime friends in Roanoke, Virginia and one of my constituents for the past 23 years until she passed away on January 12 at age 91. The Roanoke community is grieving this loss and we continue to

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

keep her husband of 72 years, Bob, in our thoughts and prayers.

As someone new to Roanoke in the mid-1970s, Frances and Bob were among the first folks I met when I moved to the Star City with my wife to work for Sixth District Congressman Caldwell Butler. I knew the Garlands for owning and operating Garland's Drug Store in Roanoke's Grandin Village and then came to know them even better because of the role that Bob played as a member of Roanoke City Council and the work that Frances did as a stalwart in the Republican Party. Feeling the tug created by her husband's political service, Frances volunteered in a variety of important capacities—as a precinct captain in Roanoke, for four years as leader of the Virginia Federation of Republican Women (VFRW) in 1972, as one of the first female members of the Republican Party of Virginia's State Central Committee, as an alternate delegate to the 1976 Republican National Convention, and as a Presidential Elector in 1992. Her leadership of the VFRW was instrumental in giving women more important political opportunities throughout the Commonwealth, opportunities that have broadened to this day. She even served three Virginia Governors on the Virginia Commission on the State of Women.

Throughout her 91 years, Frances showed in everything she did that she was committed to being a loving wife and mother, to hard work, and to being a leader who displayed quintessential grace at every turn. My former boss, Congressman Butler, paid tribute to Frances in 1988 on the occasion of her receiving the Governor John N. Dalton Distinguished Service Award at the Virginia Republican State Convention. Congressman Butler said, "We remember her for all the things she has done and all the offices she has held, but we admire her most for her great talent, and for her charm, patience, and quiet dignity with which she has gone about her tasks."

While her tasks on Earth are complete, Frances Garland leaves behind a wonderful family who loved her dearly, a whole host of friends who will miss the renowned get-togethers at the Garland home, and a wide-ranging group of Republicans who will forever remember the invaluable contributions she made to making the party stronger in the Roanoke Valley, the Commonwealth, and our nation. And she did it all through digging in, doing the hard work, and with a talent for having others share in her love of it all.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF ROBERT EDWARD HIGH

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Mr. Robert Edward High and his thirty-seven years of service to the Paris Independent School District. After graduating with a B.S. from Texas A&M University, Mr. High began teaching science at Crockett Junior High School. He has since served in a variety of leadership roles including classroom teacher, coach, elementary and middle school assistant principal, middle school principal, high school principal, personnel director and assistant superintendent.

Mr. High is also active in community and civic affairs. He currently serves as vice-president of the NAACP Branch 6213 and has served as president and past president of the Lamar County Chapter of the American Red Cross. He has also been very involved with the Lamar County Heart Association, Retired Senior Volunteers, Crime Stoppers, March of Dimes, and United Way. He was the first African-American to serve as president of the Lamar County Chamber of Commerce in its 137-year history.

Mr. High's leadership has not gone unnoticed. During his tenure as middle school principal, Crockett Middle School was recognized by Governor Ann Richards as a "Gold Star Partnership School." He has also been named Outstanding Educator of the Year and Administrator of the Year. Additionally, he has received the Martin Luther King African American Heritage Award and the President's Volunteer Service Award under President George W. Bush in 2008.

The NAACP will dedicate the 19th Annual Freedom Banquet in Mr. Robert High's name to commemorate his commitment to education and civil rights in the Paris community and the proceeds of the banquet will support a scholarship in his name.

To celebrate Mr. Robert High's retirement after serving the Paris Independent School District for thirty-seven years, this statement will be submitted on Thursday, February 11, 2016.

HONORING HOUSTON HISPANIC FORUM ON ITS 30TH ANNUAL CAREER AND EDUCATION DAY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Houston Hispanic Forum for hosting its 30th annual Career and Education Day and for its commitment to the Greater Houston community.

The Houston Hispanic Forum is a community-based, non-profit organization whose mission is to "empower and inspire the success of the large and fast-growing Hispanic community in the Greater Houston area, thereby strengthening the entire community."

This year's Career and Education Day will bring 12,000 middle and high school students from throughout Houston and Harris County and surrounding communities to the George R. Brown Convention Center on February 13 for a day-long event to prepare our students for college and the professional world.

Students and their parents will have the opportunity to speak and learn from experts in over 55 professions, including accounting, journalism, and rocket science. The fair will have over 100 exhibitors, including local and national colleges and universities, trade schools, non-profit organizations, and large companies. Trained experts will be providing valuable assistance on how to apply for federal financial aid, deferred action, and tax consultation.

All of these opportunities and services will be available free of charge.

The economy of the 21st century demands a highly educated workforce. If Houston and

Texas are to continue leading our nation in innovation and prosperity, we must educate and train all of our young people, regardless of race, ethnicity, or income, for the new economy. This is why organizations like the Houston Hispanic Forum and events like Career and Education Day are so valuable.

I would like to thank Houston Hispanic Forum President Daniel Contreras and its Board of Directors and staff for all the time and effort putting this special day together.

I would also like to thank our local school districts, colleges and universities for their participation and great efforts they make to provide a world class education to all of Houston's students.

HONORING THE LIFE OF VICTOR S. RUBENSTEIN

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Victor S. Rubenstein, 72, who passed away on Tuesday, February 2, 2016. Victor was born on November 21, 1943 in Youngstown, Ohio, a son of Emmanuel M. and Celia Copeland Rubenstein.

Mr. Rubenstein earned a bachelor's degree in education in 1966 from Youngstown State University, where he was Senior Class president, editor of The Jambar student newspaper, and also YSU's very first "Pete the Penguin" mascot. After graduating from YSU, Victor worked as a junior high school English teacher, publisher and editor of three area weekly newspapers, and as a public-relations director and television host for WYTV.

In 1970, Victor founded Rubenstein Associates, his own marketing and communications agency, beginning a career of remarkable accomplishment. Throughout his career, Victor received over seventy-five awards for excellence in public relations and television production, was appointed to sit on the Governor's Advisory Board to the Ohio Film Bureau, served as the consulting vice-president of marketing for AVI Foodsystems in Warren, OH, and worked as one of the most prominent political consultants in the Mahoning Valley.

Victor had a great love for the Mahoning Valley and his hometown of Youngstown, OH. Victor was known to be a genuine, honest, engaging, and compassionate man. He had an extraordinary love for his family. They were the focal point of his life.

Victor will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and community. He leaves behind his wife, Carolyn Anne, whom he married on December 14, 1978. Together they raised four children; Keith (Susan) of Lake Forest, IL, Kim Rubenstein, Psy.D. (Tom Lundin) of Highland Park, IL, Eric (V.J.), Ph.D., (Lisa, Ph.D.) of Muncie, IN, and Mark (with Ryan Homes) in Charlotte, NC. He also leaves behind four grandchildren Lucille, Sydney, Zachary, and Ella Rubenstein of Lake Forest, IL. He was preceded in death by his parents and several aunts and uncles.

IN MEMORIAM OF THE
HONORABLE PAUL MANNES

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Honorable Paul Mannes, an outstanding public servant who, over the course of his 34 years of service as a United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Maryland, exemplified the finest qualities of a jurist. Unfortunately, Judge Mannes passed away on January 20, 2016 at the age of 82. He is very much missed by his wife of 58 years, Karen Klein Mannes, and their three sons and daughters-in-law as well as his colleagues on the bench and in the bar.

Born in the District of Columbia on December 25, 1933, Judge Mannes grew up in Chevy Chase, Maryland and went on to Dartmouth, where he majored in philosophy and graduated with honors in 1955. Thereafter, he attended Georgetown University School of Law, where he earned a juris doctor degree in 1958 and a Masters in Law in 1961. After serving as a law clerk to the Honorable Alexander Holtzoff, U.S. District Judge for the District of Columbia, and as an Assistant Corporate Counsel to the District of Columbia, he entered private practice with various law firms. On December 10, 1981, he was sworn in as United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Maryland.

During his time on the bench, Judge Mannes published 155 opinions that span more than 500 volumes of the Bankruptcy Reporter. He enjoyed a national reputation in the bankruptcy community as one of America's foremost judges. The Washington Post, for example, praised him in 1991 as the court's "workhorse."

In addition to his demanding workload on the bench, Judge Mannes devoted his time to improving the law. In 1987, he was appointed by Chief Justice Rehnquist to the Judicial Conference of the United States Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules and later served as Chairman of the Committee, the first bankruptcy judge to be so honored. He was also active in the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, where he served as President from 1992 to 1993, and was a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute, among other professional organizations.

Judge Mannes was also a valuable resource to the Committee on the Judiciary. For example, he testified before the Committee in 1995 and in 2003 on the need for additional bankruptcy judgeships respectively on behalf of the Judicial Conference's Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. He helpfully provided his assistance to Committee staff on both sides of the aisle. He also served on a special advisory group to the National Bankruptcy Review Commission, an independent body created by Congress to study and make recommendations to improve our Nation's bankruptcy laws.

Judge Mannes thoroughly embraced his role as a jurist and served as a mentor to those who were beginning their careers as bankruptcy judges. He and his wife hosted dinners for every new class of newly-appointed bankruptcy judges who attended the judges' ori-

entation seminar at the Federal Judicial Center in Washington, DC. This home-style welcome, which he paid for at his own expense, became a virtual institution that endeared Judge Mannes and his wife to judges from all over the country and enhanced the collegiality of our Nation's bankruptcy bench.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life of the Honorable Paul Mannes. He will truly be missed, but his legacy will not soon be forgotten.

**A STANDING OVATION FOR
INSPIRATION STAGE**

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Inspiration Stage Theater Company of Sugar Land for receiving a National Outstanding Performance Award for their January festival performance at the Junior Theater Festival.

Inspiration Stage was founded in 2013, and as the only theater company in Sugar Land, has been attending the Junior Theater Festival since their inception. The performance that won this year's award was a reproduction of Disney's "The Lion King." The 39 cast member performance hosts actors of all ages and was one of the nine selected out of the 115 companies participating at the festival to win the Outstanding Performance Award. The Junior Theater Festival is an annual event that allows student performances of theater companies to be recognized for excellent ability. We are extremely proud of the entire Inspiration Stage staff and cast and can't wait to see what happens next.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Inspiration Stage for winning the National Outstanding Performance Award. Keep up the great work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, on February 9, 2016, I was unable to be present to cast my vote on the 9/11 Memorial Act (H.R. 3036). Had I been present for roll call No. 64, I would have voted "aye."

**HONORING THE SERVICE OF PAM
BALSLEY**

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mrs. Pam Balsley, a dedicated professional with the Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs, on the occasion of her retirement.

Pam has been an exemplary public servant who has demonstrated the highest standards of professionalism on a daily basis. This Ohio native proudly served in the United States Air Force for 20 years before coming to work at the Department of Veterans Affairs for more than 20 years. Her career in public service has been a testament to the importance of unselfish devotion.

As Pam embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that she may recall with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment the outstanding contributions she has made to the Department of Veterans Affairs, the United States House of Representatives and the people of the United States of America. I would like to send her my best wishes for continued success in her future endeavors, and may her life be filled with health and happiness.

**HONORING CAROL STREAM FIRE
CHIEF RICK KOLOMAY**

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today in recognition of the long and distinguished service of Rick Kolomay on the occasion of his retirement. Chief Kolomay will be concluding his loyal service as Fire Chief of the Carol Stream Fire Protection District after 37 years of service.

Chief Kolomay has served the Carol Stream community for 14 years, and has served as chief since 2009. He was also a member of the Schaumburg Fire Department for 23 years and is a third-generation firefighter.

Throughout his career, his extraordinary leadership has earned him pronounced respect among colleagues and members of the community. Most notably, he helped create an alliance between neighboring fire departments, which improved efficiency and allowed the sharing of resources.

Time and time again, Chief Kolomay has exhibited the characteristics expected of a fireman: enormous sacrifice and courage. Mayor of Carol Stream, Frank Saverino described Chief Kolomay as a "hands-on guy" and commented on his devotion to the men of his department saying, "If they're climbing ladders, he's climbing ladders . . . He's got to be right there with them. He leads by example, and when you lead by example, and it's physical, it's hard". This is the true definition of a leader and his presence at the fire department will be deeply missed.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in honoring Chief Kolomay on this occasion and wish him every happiness in the well deserved respite of his retirement.

**RECOGNIZING KENDRA MURRAY
FOR HER OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS**

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Kendra Murray for

being selected as one of Pennsylvania's top youth volunteers of 2016 by Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

Kendra is a senior at Meyersdale Area High School, and one of the 29,000 students across the United States to participate in the 21st annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program. Kendra helped her high school raise \$5,000 to support breast cancer research by sponsoring a "Flamingo Flocking" pink flamingo event. Kendra is also the President of her school's student council, organizes community cleanup days along with other school activities and fundraisers.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Kendra is one we all should strive for. Her willingness to serve her community and Pennsylvania sets her apart as an outstanding individual and I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress. I ask that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Kendra for this achievement and wishing her nothing but continued success.

HONORING CAPTAIN WILLIAM
"BILL" McDONOUGH FOR HIS
WORK IN SUPPORT OF THE
PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD
FOLLOWING HIS PASSING ON
JANUARY 11, 2016

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my sincerest condolences and sympathy to the family of Captain Bill McDonough. Captain McDonough was a former commander of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, having served as its commander from 1974–1979 when he retired from the U.S. Navy. In the Granite State, Bill was most commonly known as the Washington representative to the Seacoast Shipyard Association (SSA), a post he assumed in 1991.

During many attempts by the Department of Defense to close the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard as part of the Base Realignment and Closure Process, in his role with the SSA Bill led the charge in support of keeping this important base open. He worked with current and former shipyard employees to highlight the important work done on the shipyard in support of the Navy's fleet of submarines. His expertise was sought after by many Members of Congress over the years who looked to Bill for his on the ground knowledge of the shipyard and its workers, and through these joint efforts and under Bill's strong leadership we were able to save our beloved shipyard from closure.

New Hampshire and the shipyard lost a true friend to the community and we will forever be grateful for his hard work and love of the community he held so dear.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FRED-
ERICK DOUGLASS BICENTENNIAL
COMMISSION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the birthday of Frederick Douglass, I introduce a bill that would establish a bicentennial commission to study ways that the federal government might honor and celebrate the life of Douglass during the bicentennial anniversary of his birth, in 2018.

Frederick Douglass was born into slavery in 1818 on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He learned basic reading skills from his mistress and continued to teach himself and other slaves to read and write despite the risks he faced, including death. After two attempts, Douglass successfully escaped to New York and became an abolitionist and anti-slavery lecturer. He went on to serve in several administrations, including as a close advisor to President Abraham Lincoln, U.S. Marshal of the District of Columbia under President Rutherford B. Hayes, and District of Columbia Recorder of Deeds under President James Garfield. In 1889, President Benjamin Harrison appointed Frederick Douglass to be the U.S. minister to Haiti. He was later appointed by President Ulysses S. Grant to serve as secretary of the commission of Santo Domingo.

Douglass dedicated his life to achieving justice for all Americans. He lived in the District of Columbia for 23 of his 57 years as a free man and was deeply committed to obtaining equal congressional voting and self-government rights for District residents. His home at Cedar Hill was established as a National Historic Site in Southeast Washington, D.C., and his statue in the United States Capitol is a gift from the 650,000 American citizens of the District of Columbia.

My bill would establish a commission to examine ways the federal government can honor Douglass during the bicentennial anniversary of his birth, including the issuance of a Frederick Douglass bicentennial postage stamp, the convening of a joint meeting or joint session of Congress for ceremonies and activities relating to Frederick Douglass, a rededication of the Frederick Douglass National Historic Site, and the acquisition and preservation of artifacts associated with Frederick Douglass. The Commission would report its findings and recommendations to Congress.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

CELEBRATING THE 350TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE FIRST CON-
GREGATIONAL CHURCH OF OLD
LYME, CONNECTICUT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 350th Anniversary of The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme and to thank its generations of members for their community building efforts over the past three and a half centuries.

The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme was founded in 1666 in Old Lyme, Connecticut, fifteen years after the Mayflower arrived in North America and has maintained its place as a facet of early American history. Since its founding, the church has been a pioneer in its faith and continues to contribute to the rich history of our region. Its congregation has included many notable Americans including the Noyes, who were original trustees of Yale University, and Samuel Holden Parsons, who led his regiment in the Battle of Bunker Hill during the American Revolution. Over the decades the church dealt with disaster and growth, and the church meetinghouse was rebuilt many times. The current meetinghouse is a landmark and an icon in the region and has served as inspiration for many artists from the area.

Today, The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme has grown to include almost a thousand members in its congregation. These members participate in efforts all over the world to improve the lives of others. From local Habitat to Humanity efforts, to establishing partnerships with churches in South Africa, to building interfaith relationships in southeastern Connecticut, the First Church of Old Lyme has built a legacy of service and community that will continue for many decades to come.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in wishing the First Congregational Church of Old Lyme a joyous celebration of their 350th Anniversary.

H-GAC 2015 PARKS AND NATURAL
AREAS AWARD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Richmond, Texas for earning the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) 2015 Parks and Natural Areas Award.

The H-GAC Areas Award projects, like the one done by Richmond, help promote positive projects for the surrounding parks and natural areas. The City of Richmond received Special Recognition in the Planning Process competition. This project consists of a strategic design and progression of a communitywide trail network developed by the city of Richmond. We are extremely proud of the city of Richmond and thank them for their commitment to improving the quality of life for its residents.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Richmond for receiving this award and helping to strengthen our community.

HONORING CHARLES WOOLLETT IN
CELEBRATION OF HIS 100TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to Charles Woollett in celebration of his upcoming 100th birthday on March 12, 2016.

As he reflects on the great memories that have highlighted the past hundred years, and his life with his wife Lucille and daughters Ruth and Mary, I know he will think fondly on all that he's accomplished. As a resident of the Town of Alton, and a member of the United States Army during World War II, he has had a positive impact on both New Hampshire and the United States of America, and I thank him for his service to his community and our great country.

It is with great admiration that I congratulate Mr. Woollett on achieving this wonderful milestone, and wish him the best on all future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING GRADUATING SENIOR BUFFALO STATE BENGALS BASKETBALL PLAYERS, DERRICK FERNANDEZ, LUKE JENKINS, KEVIN MARMOLEJOS, AND AKEEM WILLIAMS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize four exceptional members of the senior class at Buffalo State College, Derrick Fernandez, Luke Jenkins, Kevin Marmolejos, and Akeem Williams. These students are known as leaders among their peers and teammates as members of the Buffalo State men's basketball team. I commend these young men for their scholastic and athletic dedication, and congratulate them as their college careers come to a close.

Coming from the borough of the Bronx in New York City, Derrick attended Herbert H. Lehman High School and majored in Sociology. Derrick played the position of guard during his time on the Buffalo State basketball team.

Luke Jenkins came to Buffalo State from his hometown of Slingerlands, New York. A graduate of Bethlehem High School, Luke played forward for the Buffalo State Bengals. He will be earning a degree in Criminal Justice.

Kevin Marmolejos is a graduate of Beach Channel High School and a native of Woodhaven, New York. During his time at Buffalo State, Kevin played guard and his major was Individualized Studies.

Akeem Williams graduated from White Plains High School and made his way to Buffalo State from White Plains, New York. He studied Criminal Justice and played in the position of forward on the Buffalo State basketball team.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing my colleagues to join me in recognizing these outstanding Buffalo State Bengals and in congratulating them as they obtain their undergraduate degrees. As an alumnus of Buffalo State, I will be proud to call them fellow alumni. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors and am confident they will achieve success.

THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YOLANDA ADAMS MORNING SHOW

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I stand in celebration of my good friend Yolanda Adams on this the 10th anniversary of her radio show.

Yolanda Adams rose to fame as one of Gospel Music's greats making her debut in 1988 with the acclaimed and uplifting Just As I Am album.

Since then Yolanda has been wowing gospel audiences all over the world.

Following an illustrious musical career, Yolanda began the Yolanda Adams Morning Show.

Yolanda simply connects with listeners by bringing her warm, embracing spirit to the airwaves in a playful blend of contemporary music, news, interviews, and daily features that are entertaining and inspiring.

The Yolanda Adams Morning Show is the longest running inspirational morning drive radio show of its kind.

Currently in over 40 markets. The show has over 5 million in listening audience every morning.

Yolanda and her Co-hosts Anthony Valary, and Marcus D. Wiley have made it about love and comradery make it about more than just a morning show . . . it's a celebration of friends and family.

It is with endearing sentiment that I celebrate The Yolanda Adams Morning Show, and I look forward to 10 more years of un-matched laughter, spirituality, and celebration on the radio waves.

ELECTRIFY AFRICA

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support passage of the Electrify Africa Act. This bipartisan legislation will build a brighter future for more than 600 million Africans by improving their access to reliable electricity.

During the last several decades, development gains in impoverished communities throughout the continent have been dramatically undercut by prevailing practices for accessing light and cooking fuel—practices that have damaged one's health and safety, degraded the environment, or have inefficiently used scarce resources.

By investing in electricity and by encouraging the private sector to do the same, this legislation will help save lives, provide education and medical services, bolster communities, and improve economic development.

As the Ranking Member of the State Department and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, I applaud Congress' passage of this critical legislation, and I look forward to working with the Administration on its implementation.

IN RECOGNITION OF STAG & DOE RESTAURANT AND TAVERN'S SELECTION AS THE ROWAN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2015 CHAMBER CHAMPION SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Stag & Doe Restaurant and Tavern, located in China Grove, North Carolina, for its selection as the Rowan County Chamber of Commerce 2015 Chamber Champion Small Business of the Year. Stag & Doe is a fixture within Rowan County and this selection illustrates the profound impact the restaurant has had on our community for generations.

Established in 1953 by Dan Morton, Stag & Doe was styled after an English Pub that would be dedicated to providing customers a welcoming environment where people could enter as strangers and leave as friends. While many things have changed at Stag & Doe since 1953, it has never lost its family-owned, hometown atmosphere. Stag & Doe is still known today as one of the best places in Rowan County to go to for a great steak or the freshest seafood in the region.

In addition to providing a fantastic dining experience that attracts folks from all across the region, the restaurant's owners, the Morton family, have been actively involved in the community's development for decades. From opening up Stag & Doe for countless local events to being the driving force behind building support for a new interchange off Interstate 85 that would have a lasting impact on southern Rowan County, Gary Morton continues the legacy of community service that was started over 60 years ago. Stag & Doe is the embodiment of what a small business should be, and this award is truly a testament to the appreciation the restaurant has so rightfully earned from our community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Morton family and the Stag & Doe staff for earning this prestigious award, and wishing them well as they continue to serve the people of Rowan County, North Carolina some of the finest food our area has to offer.

RECOGNIZING GRADUATING SENIOR BUFFALO STATE BENGALS BASKETBALL PLAYERS, CLARISA MATIAS, BRITT PERRY, KRYSTAL WATSON, AND JORDAN YASTREMSKI

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Clarisa Matias, Britt Perry, Krystal Watson, and Jordan Yastremski, graduating seniors on the Buffalo State women's basketball team. During their collegiate careers, these young women have proven to be talented and dedicated scholars and athletes. Their achievements on and off the court are worthy of praise.

From Buffalo, New York, Clarisa Matias graduated from Holy Angels High School and

majoring in Biology at Buffalo State. Clarisa played the position of guard during her years on the basketball team.

Prior to her time playing guard for the Bengals, Britt Perry earned her high school diploma from Hutch Tech High School. She is a Buffalo native who chose to enroll at Buffalo State and will earn a degree in Health and Wellness.

Krystal Watson will graduate with a Business degree and played forward during her time on the Buffalo State basketball team. Her hometown is Buffalo, New York, and she attended Sacred Heart High School.

Hailing from Bath, New York, Jordan Yastremski traveled to Buffalo State from Bath-Haverling High School. She studied Criminal Justice and played the position of forward for the Bengals.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing my colleagues to join me in recognizing these extraordinary Buffalo State Bengals and in congratulating them as they obtain their undergraduate degrees. As an alumnus of Buffalo State, I will be proud to call them fellow alumni. Their commitment and ambition will propel them to success, and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

THE GLOBAL ZIKA EPIDEMIC

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, in 1947, in a remote area of Uganda, scientists discovered a previously unknown virus among the rhesus monkey population. They called it the Zika virus for the forest in which it was found. It is endemic to Africa and Southeast Asia.

Scientists know that the Zika virus, like dengue fever and chikungunya, is spread almost exclusively through the bite of an *Aedes* species mosquito, an aggressive daytime biter. These mosquitoes had been significantly diminished in this hemisphere, certainly in the United States, until the recent resurgence of dengue and chikungunya disease. We know a great deal about these disease vectors, but there is much scientists admit they don't know about the Zika virus itself.

Lack of knowledge and misinformation has stoked apprehension and fear among many.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) some of the reasons we don't know more about this disease include:

A relatively small proportion (about 1 in 4) of infected people develop symptoms;

A virus that is only detectable for a few days in infected people's blood;

The failure of current tests to definitively distinguish Zika from similar viruses, such as dengue and chikungunya.

The WHO recommends that all people in areas with potentially infected mosquitoes, especially pregnant women, wear protective clothing and repellants and stay indoors to the extent possible with windows closed or screened. Pregnant women are urged to postpone travel to affected areas or to diligently protect against mosquito bites if travel is unavoidable.

Currently no therapeutics exist to treat Zika virus nor is there a vaccine—but that gap

need not be forever. One of our witnesses at yesterday's hearing—Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of NIH's allergy and infectious diseases institute explained the scope of NIH research on the Zika virus as well vector control. Lessons learned from years of malaria vector control have applicability to Zika. Our two other distinguished witnesses included Dr. Thomas Frieden and Ariel Pablos-Mendez, Assistant Administrator for Global Health at USAID.

The U.S. Government has for quite some time promoted such tactics as insecticide-laced mosquito nets, window and door screens, small pool and container drainage and the use of strong but safe pesticides to eradicate mosquitoes. However, our programs largely are tailored for developing countries. With the reemergence of dengue fever and chikungunya in the southern United States, we have to step up our domestic efforts to control mosquitoes before warmer weather leads to an explosion of the mosquito population during an imminent epidemic in the homeland.

According to Luiz Alberto Figueiredo Machado, Ambassador of Brazil to the United States, the Brazilian government has deployed 220,000 troops and 300,000 health agents to fight the vector of the infection by visiting communities to educate the population and help eliminate all mosquito breeding grounds.

Experts cite possible links with the Zika infection of pregnant mothers and disorders affecting their unborn children, although they—including our witnesses yesterday—are quick to point out that no definitive proof of such a linkage.

According to Brazil's Ambassador Machado, "Microcephaly in newborn babies can also be caused by a number of other diseases. Health experts are dealing with something new: the link between Zika and microcephaly is unprecedented in the scientific literature and requires in-depth studies and analyses. . . ."

In fact, in announcing the administration's proposal for a supplemental sum of \$1.8 billion to fund efforts to combat the Zika virus, the White House statement said there "may" be a connection between the Zika virus and disorders experienced by newborns in affected countries.

Dr. Marcos Espinal, Director of Communicable Diseases and Health Analysis at the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), said there is a broad spectrum of impacts for microcephaly.

A fact sheet on microcephaly in Boston Children's Hospital notes that "Some children with microcephaly have normal intelligence and experience no particular difficulty with schoolwork, physical activity, relationships or any other aspect of their lives. However, many children with the disease—especially those with more severe cases—face: mild to significant learning disabilities, impaired motor functions, difficulty with movement and balance, speech delays."

In the meantime, we must work harder to prevent maternal infections and devise compassionate ways to ensure that any child born with disabilities from this or any other infection is welcomed, loved and gets the care he or she needs. USAID's Ariel Pablos-Mendez testified yesterday that we need to expand "best practices for supporting children with microcephaly." In like manner, parents of children with disabilities need to be tangibly supported.

Ana Carolina Cáceres, a Brazilian journalist born with microcephaly, told the BBC's Ri-

cardo Senra in a February 5 interview that the condition "is a box of surprises. You may suffer from serious problems or you may not . . . On the day I was born, the doctor said I had no chance of survival. 'She will not walk, she will not talk . . . ' But he—like many others—was wrong. I grew up, went to school, went to university. Today I am a journalist and I write a blog . . . People need to put their prejudices aside and learn about this syndrome."

The hearing yesterday looked into the implications of the current and long-term threat from the Zika virus, and we assembled expert infectious health leaders from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Agency for International Development to help us do so.

For more than four years, I have been urging passage of my bill the End Neglected Tropical Diseases Act—H.R. 1797. The full Foreign Affairs Committee approved it last month. Since 2011, we've accelerated our discussions on the need for more study and funded efforts to identify tropical diseases and find diagnostics, vaccines and treatments of such illnesses.

At that time, West Nile virus was quietly making its way across the globe, including the United States, from its origins in East Africa.

Ebola virus, first discovered in a remote area of Central Africa in 1976, caused a global health crisis only two years ago.

For the second consecutive year, the administration has slashed funding for global health accounts in the budget proposal released this week, including a 19 percent cut for global program on tuberculosis—the world's leading infectious disease killer. Additionally, the administration is being short-sighted with regard to Neglected Tropical Diseases, cutting that program by nearly 15 percent. In the face of the waves of infectious disease epidemics in recent years, including multi-drug resistant tuberculosis, West Nile virus, Ebola and now Zika, the administration's habitual disregard of the increasing danger from infectious diseases is simply inexplicable.

Zika has now joined the ranks of previously little-known diseases that have created global alarm.

Before the next explosive health crisis appears, we must provide sufficient resources to the study of tropical diseases. H.R. 1797 authorizes the creation of Centers of Excellence to study every aspect of these dreaded diseases.

Zika virus is the latest crisis but won't be the last.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ELLEN L. STOVALL

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the passing of Ellen Lewis Stovall, but more importantly, to celebrate the life of a cancer advocate and pioneer. During a 44 year period, Ellen defeated cancer on 3 separate occasions and advocated for improved cancer treatment for more than 30 years.

At 24 years old, just weeks after giving birth to her son, Ellen was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma and told she had less than a

20 percent chance of survival. Against the odds, Ellen beat cancer and went on to found a support group for young cancer survivors at Georgetown University Hospital. During this time is when she became a strong advocate for the term cancer "survivor" as opposed to "victim," as the key to a new way of thinking about the disease.

In 1988, she was elected to the board of the National Coalition of Cancer Survivorship, where she later served as President and CEO. Ellen's contributions to the cancer treatment community are too numerous to count. Among various positions with the National Cancer Institute, American Association for Cancer Research, and the American Society of Clinical Oncology, she was appointed to the NCI's National Cancer Advisory Board by President Clinton in 1992. She later served as Vice President of the Institute of Medicine's National Cancer Policy Board and went on to become a founding member of the board's successor—the National Cancer Policy Forum.

As a doctor, I recognize the countless contributions Ellen made to the cancer treatment community. Her relentless advocacy of a more patient-centered approach to cancer survivors made her a pioneering figure in cancer treatment. I had the privilege of working with Ellen and Representative LOIS CAPPS (D-CA) to introduce the PATH Act providing a cancer treatment roadmap for patients. Ellen will be missed, not only by those of us who were fortunate enough to call her a friend, but also by the countless cancer survivors whose lives she has positively impacted. I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing her many years of dedication to improving the lives of her fellow cancer survivors.

HONORING COMMUNITY CHAMPION CHARLIE SCHMITZ

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize one of my constituents from Western Pennsylvania, Mr. Charles Schmitz. Mr. Schmitz, known as 'Charlie' by many, was originally from New York City but now calls his ranch in Crawford County home.

Charlie gallantly served in our nation's military and spent three years in combat. He is a decorated Vietnam War veteran who continues to serve those around him with his selfless personality and admirable actions.

During his service, Charlie sustained injuries which had a significant impact on his life and ultimately motivated the next part of his journey. In 1993, Charlie founded the WCJ Ranch, a Pennsylvania non-profit that provides regulated licensed shooting and hunting grounds free of charge to Combat Disabled Veterans, Disabled Veterans and Inexperienced Youth Hunters. In order to benefit as many veterans as possible, WCJ Ranch collaborates with other organizations such as the Paralyzed Veterans of America and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

For twenty-three successful hunting seasons, Charlie has served as the ranch's founder, field guide and outfitter. Charlie has welcomed countless veterans regardless of their physical challenges, and provided them with

the opportunity to hunt safely and enjoy the great outdoors to the fullest extent among other veterans. WCJ Ranch personalizes each and every hunt by accommodating the hunter's physical abilities. There are several handicapped-accessible deer and turkey blinds, accessible by wheelchair as well as specially-outfitted trails and bridges. Facilities are continuously being adapted and upgraded to accommodate the ever-changing needs of the hunters. Charlie adds new stands and special facilities every year for repeat hunters who frequent WCJ Ranch to ensure they have new areas to explore each time they visit.

Everyone who has had the privilege of visiting WCJ Ranch has walked away changed for the better and sure of one thing—it's not just about the hunt. It's the overall experience which creates memories that last a lifetime. The camaraderie between the hunters and the staff leads to close bonds and beneficial relationships. It is the welcoming environment that Charlie has created where everyone feels safe and as if they belong.

Charlie has displayed an unwavering commitment to the veterans' community and those in need. He used his personal experience and what helped him heal following his time in combat, and decided to create a similar outlet for other veterans where they could find peace. Charlie is an honorable man whose dedication continues to make a positive difference in the lives of so many.

RECOGNIZING THE OZONA LIONS 7TH GRADE MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ozona Lions 7th grade men's basketball team on winning the 2016 District Tournament in Eldorado, Texas.

The Lions, undefeated for the entire season, were behind for most of the championship game. It wasn't until the last two minutes that they secured the lead. Despite team injuries and illnesses, they were able to band together to secure the win. I would also like to give special recognition to Head Coach John Esparza, who led the Lions to victory. I look forward to seeing these young men develop into outstanding leaders in the community. On behalf of the 23rd Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to the Lions.

H-GAC 2015 PARKS AND NATURAL AREAS AWARD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sugar Land, Texas for earning the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) 2015 Parks and Natural Areas Award.

The H-GAC Areas Award projects, like the one done by Sugar Land, help promote positive projects for the surrounding parks and natural areas. The City of Sugar Land won in

the On-the-Ground Projects Under \$500K competition. This project consists of a convenient, one-of-a-kind playground that can serve kids in different age groups and all capabilities. We are extremely proud of the city of Sugar Land and thank them for their commitment to improving the quality of life for its residents.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Sugar Land for receiving this award and helping to strengthen our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded on Roll Call Number 64 from February 9, 2016. As a cosponsor of H.R. 3036, the National 9/11 Memorial at the World Trade Center Act, introduced by Rep. TOM MACARTHUR of New Jersey, I would have voted Yes on Roll Call Number 64.

HONORING MICHAEL RILEY FOR HIS LEADERSHIP AT THE MOTOR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION OF CONNECTICUT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor President of the Motor Transport Association of Connecticut (MTAC), Michael Riley, upon his retirement. For just under three decades Mike has represented the commercial trucking interests of almost 1,400 member companies as a trusted and respected advocate.

From 1979 to 1987, before his involvement with MTAC, Mike was an executive assistant to Senator Christopher Dodd and he used that experience to work with lawmakers and Connecticut administration officials to improve the regulatory structure surrounding the trucking industry. These efforts resulted in achievements like the installation of weight station bypass systems, online permit processes, and important legislation to define "independent contractors" who work in the industry.

Mike's work at MTAC has tangibly increased the safety of Connecticut road users, as he led efforts to create a consortium for testing the use of controlled substances and alcohol abuse among drivers. Since 1989, and in conjunction with Gregory & Howe, MTAC has helped create the largest testing program in the state, so successful that even non-truck drivers from member companies are part of the program.

Mike's focus on safety extended to spearheading a commercial lines insurance program, which offers property and casualty insurance for members. The success of this venture is demonstrated by its size and support within the industry. Indeed the fund has become large enough in recent years to pay significant workers compensation dividends back to participating companies, showing what

a sustainable and robust program Mike has developed.

Please join me in congratulating Mike for the significant impact he has made on the state of Connecticut, and wishing him an enjoyable and well-earned retirement.

RECOGNIZING IGNACIO GAMBOA,
JR.

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Mr. Ignacio Gamboa, Jr.

Mr. Gamboa passed away on December 23rd, 2015. He was a decorated veteran and fought heroically in both the Second World War and the Korean War. Among his Army decorations are three Asiatic Pacific Medals, the WWII Victory Medal, the Army Occupation Medal with the Japan Clasp, the Korean Service Medal with two Bronze Service Stars, the Philippines Liberation Medal with one Bronze Service Medal, and the U.N. Service Medal.

Mr. Gamboa was a notable and honorable citizen of Devine, Texas, and was highly involved in the Knights of Columbus and the Devine Housing Authority, upon which he served on the Board of Directors. He worked at Kelly Air Force Base for over 30 years and served as an elections judge for many of those years. He also enjoyed volunteering with the St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Devine. On behalf of the 23rd Congressional District of Texas, I thank Mr. Ignacio Gamboa, Jr. for his dedication and service to United States. May he rest in peace.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MR. AND
MRS. WILLIAM HUGO PARKMAN

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the lives of Mr. Hugo Parkman and Mrs. Doris Parkman.

Residents of Palmetto, Georgia, Mr. Parkman passed away on November 20, 2012, and Mrs. Parkman passed away last Sunday, February 7, 2016.

Mr. Parkman served on the USS *Finback* during World War II and became bunk-mates with future President George H.W. Bush after President Bush's plane was shot down over the Pacific. Mrs. Parkman was the first member of her family to attend college, enrolling in Alabama College. She then went to missionary school in Kentucky to study religious education where she met her life-long partner, Hugo.

Together, Mr. and Mrs. Parkman served as Southern Baptist missionaries in Makati, Philippines, establishing a church and serving everywhere they went.

Throughout their travels, family always came first for Mr. and Mrs. Parkman who are survived by their six children, 15 grandchildren, and ten great grandchildren. They will truly be missed.

H-GAC 2015 PARKS AND NATURAL
AREAS AWARD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Missouri City, Texas for earning the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) 2015 Parks and Natural Areas Award.

The H-GAC Areas Award projects help promote positive projects for the surrounding parks and natural areas. The Missouri City SOWING Project Community Garden won in the Policy Tools category. This project, done by Men for Change, Inc., promotes a healthy lifestyle for people of all ages through informing families on proper nutrition and the importance of a balanced diet. We are extremely proud of Missouri City and thank them for their commitment to improving the quality of life for its residents.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Missouri City for receiving this award and helping to strengthen our community.

HONORING REV. DR. ROBERT E.
HAMLIN, SR.

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, for two decades Rev. Dr. Robert E. Hamlin, Sr. has served as a faith leader and dedicated community member as Senior Pastor of the historic Second Baptist Church of Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

A native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Reverend Hamlin was first licensed to preach at McKinley Memorial Baptist Church in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania under the leadership of Rev. Lowell M. McCown, Sr. in 1994. In February of 1996, he was installed as the Pastor of the Second Baptist Church of Doylestown and, under his leadership, the congregation has grown in both size and spirit. Already one of Bucks County's most historic churches, Reverend Hamlin has strengthened and continued Second Baptist's important role in our area. His commitment to minister to the wide and diverse community he serves has provided for the spiritual development and earthly needs of the surrounding communities.

As a past moderator of the Suburban Baptist Association and member of the Board of Directors of several local, national and internationally based organizations, Reverend Hamlin's ministry is one that has impacted thousands not only in Bucks County, but around the world.

On this, Rev. Dr. Robert E. Hamlin, Sr.'s 20th Pastoral Anniversary, we recognize his continued commitment to the betterment of his congregation and community. I join with the members of the Second Baptist Church of Doylestown in recognition of this achievement and in sending best wishes for many more years to come.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,005,359,240,744.60. We've added \$8,378,482,191,831.52 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

SUPPORT FOR ACCESS TO EPI-
NEPHRINE FOR IN-FLIGHT EMER-
GENCIES

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my strong support for access to epinephrine for in-flight emergencies, commonly administered by epinephrine auto-injector (EAI) and want to commend Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. MALONEY of New York and Mr. HANNA of New York for their amendment and their leadership in the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, working to ensure that Emergency Medical Kits (EMKs) are appropriate to meet the emergency needs of both adult and child passengers. Epinephrine Auto-Injectors are the primary method for treatment of anaphylaxis emergencies and the best way to address anaphylactic events. Due to the ease and safety of use of epinephrine auto injectors for many travelers with diagnosed and undiagnosed allergies, air carriers should consider stocking auto-injectable epinephrine for use in adults and children.

HAPPY 34TH TO THE FORT BEND
BOYS CHOIR

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Fort Bend Boys Choir for celebrating 34 years of hard work and musical talent.

From its inception in 1982, the talent of the Fort Bend Boys Choir has been impressive. They have performed across the country at high profile events like the Olympic Festival in 1986 and President George Bush's inauguration in 1989. They were also chosen to perform at the National Christmas Tree Lighting in 2001, which resulted in a nomination for a news Emmy award. Over the 34 years that the organization has grown, the Fort Bend Boys Choir started off at only 45 members and now consists of five ensembles with 200 members total. Typically, the different choirs consist of younger boys in age, ranging from 6-14 years old. These young boys have accomplished so

much and their hard work shows through the many achievements they have earned.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, we celebrate the Fort Bend Boys Choir on their 34th anniversary and look forward to enjoying their music for another 34 years.

A PLEA TO MY COLLEAGUES ON
THE FAA BILL

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I want to talk about flight 3407 that crashed in Buffalo, New York, seven years ago tomorrow. This plane crashed in sight of the runway on an icy February night.

We learned that the pilot and the co-pilot had never been trained or flown into any icy situations. The young woman co-pilot had flown the night before from Seattle. She was so poorly paid, around \$13,000 a year, that she could not afford a motel room to sleep overnight. She instead, slept on the floor in the pilot's lounge. On the black box, before the crash, you could hear them both yawning.

On that plane were two of the best musicians in the United States, a woman who was an expert on Rwanda and the genocide there, and one of the top anthropologists. They died because these pilots had neither knowledge nor experience to fly in those conditions.

The families of the people who died on that plane have selflessly come to D.C. time and again, working to get regulations passed for seven years on how much training the pilot and the co-pilot have to have, and to ensure they have enough flying hours between them.

Now, we're facing an FAA bill with an amendment that would undo those safety regulations. I implore my colleagues not to let that amendment pass or weaken the regulations

that protect the flying public and reverse the competency of pilots who hold the lives of those we love in their hands.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. RONALD
REED

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Ronald Reed of Taylor, Michigan. A Vietnam veteran and retiree of General Motors, where he spent 42 years, Mr. Reed has been donating blood since his early days as a young Marine in Okinawa, Japan.

During the last 35 years, Ronald has donated blood nearly 200 times—impacting the lives of close to 600 people. Each blood donation has the ability to touch up to three lives, and his selflessness is an inspiration for all of us. Few Americans can say they have touched that many lives.

Blood donations here in the United States are incredibly important, and we face a constant struggle to prevent shortages of available blood. The average able donor gives about 1.2 times annually. If others followed the leadership of Mr. Reed and gave two or more times a year, we would not face the frightening need particularly in times of bad weather and holidays. Mr. Reed's above and beyond level of donation is truly remarkable and deserves recognition.

When it comes to his service to his fellow man, Ronald is an extremely modest man. He says he simply gives because he can. In my opinion, Mr. Reed fully embodies the American spirit as both a veteran and a hard and loyal worker, giving his own blood to help those in his community.

A volunteer at a Riverview Red Cross location in 2011 observed that Ronald is "an unsung hero". It is for this reason Mr. Speaker,

that I ask my colleagues today to join me in honoring Ronald Reed for his generous contributions. I thank him not only for his overwhelming donation of blood, but also for his years of service in the auto industry as a millwright, as well as his service to our country as a Marine.

MAKING AN IMPACT—ONE MISSION
AT A TIME

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Reverend Drew Wood, pastor at St. Laurence Catholic Church in Sugar Land, TX for being honored at Catholic Charities' Mission of Love Gala.

The annual Mission of Love Gala recognizes Catholic Charities of the Fort Bend County area. Reverend Wood has served as pastor of St. Laurence since 1998. He was ordained as a Priest at St. Mary's Seminary, and worked in various roles within the Diocese of the Galveston-Houston area including as the Vocations Director and Vice Chancellor. At St. Laurence, Reverend Wood found a calling in the lives of young people within the church. Due to his work chaperoning Teen Mass at conferences, Reverend Wood created a yearly retreat of his own, Heart of Worship, hosted at St. Laurence, where spiritual activities like speakers, worship, and mass impact young people's lives. Thank you to Reverend Drew Wood for the impact he has made on the lives of the Sugar Land residents.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Reverend Wood. We thank you for providing spiritual guidance to the parishioners at St. Laurence. We can't wait to see what you do next.